

# Lexington Community Health Improvement Partnership (CHIP)

## Public Health Issue

### Health Inequities

## Project Description

In 2016 the Lexington Community Health Improvement Partnership (LEX-CHIP) completed a Community Health Assessment. The purpose of the Lexington-Fayette County Community Health Assessment (CHA) was to gather the information necessary to describe the health of the community. This is done through identifying target populations that may be at an increased risk of poor health outcomes. The CHA is a tool used to gain a greater understanding of the community's needs and gaps and how to address them effectively.

Through a systematic and collaborative process, LEX-CHIP gathered information on risk factors, social determinants of health, community strengths and weaknesses, along with community assets and how well our public health system was providing the 10 essential public health services. In addition to the before mentioned data, we surveyed the actual community through two different vehicles; a community survey tool and community conversations which focused on minority groups to ensure their voice was well represented in the process.

The community conversations were also utilized as the foundation for an additional partnership with a community partner as outlined below. The community conversations were held with neighborhood groups, community associations, medical providers, at homeless and abuse shelters, and other target populations in an effort to “hear the voices” of segments of the Lexington-Fayette County population that may not easily participate in the community survey. The facilitators of the conversations were key partners who had relationships already established within the population they were holding the conversation with. We felt that this will allow for a more open and authentic conversation that would yield true insight into the thoughts and feelings of the community. The comments from the community conversations are published in the CHA/CHIP document in their unedited format.

## Target Population

The CHA will be used to address inequities among populations that are at an increased risk for poor health outcomes. The CHA survey tool was available to all of Lexington-Fayette County residents. Community conversations were held among community members and groups that had established relationships with LEX-CHIP members.

## Key Partners

The key partners that led to the success of the CHA were the members of the LEX-CHIP, the facilitators and participants of the community conversations, and the members of the community who participated in the survey tool.

# Lexington Community Health Improvement Partnership (CHIP)

LEX-CHIP members include:

Aetna Better Health of Kentucky	Green Dot Lexington	Lexington-Fayette Urban County
AIDS Volunteers, Inc.	GreenHouse17	Government
ASAP/Drug Free Lex	Health Equity Network	Lexington Public Library
Baptist Health Lexington	Hope Center	Lextran
Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging & Independent Living	Hospice of the Bluegrass	Lighthouse Ministries
Bluegrass Farm to Table, City of Lexington	Jubilee Jobs of Lexington	NAMI Lexington
Bluegrass Regional Prevention Center	Kentucky Equal Justice Center	Opportunity for Work & Learning (OWL)
Broadway Christian Church	Kentucky Injury Prevention & Research Center	Passport Health Plan
BUILD Lexington	Kentucky Job Corps	Seedleaf
Cardinal Hill Rehabilitation Center	Kentucky One Health-Continuing Care Hospital	Shriners Hospitals for Children-Lexington
Caresource	Kentucky One Health-Saint Joseph East	Sterling Health Solutions
Chrysalis House	Kentucky One Health-Saint Joseph Hospital	Substance Abuse Violence Intervention (SAVI)
Community Action Center	Kentucky Population Health Institute	The Nest
Community Action Council	Kentucky Safe Communities	Tweens Nutrition and Fitness Coalition
Community Ventures	Lexington-Fayette County Health Department	University of Kentucky
Community volunteers	Lexington Habitat for Humanity	University of Kentucky College of Public Health
Dress for Success Lexington	Lexington Housing Authority	University of Kentucky Polk-Dalton Clinic
Fayette County Cooperative Extension	Lexington Parks and Recreation	WellCare Health Plans
Food Pantry	Lexington Rescue Mission	William Wells Brown Community Center
Friedell Committee		YMCA of Central Kentucky
Gods Pantry		

## Impact/Accomplishment

Through the efforts of the LEX-CHIP team, a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) was developed as a result of the CHA. It takes effective planning and decision-making based upon good information about the current health status of the community to make an impact. Three action teams were formed in response to what the CHA expressed: LexBeSafe, LexBeWell, and LexWork.

The information from the community conversations also laid the foundation for the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department in partnership with the Health Equity Network (HEN) to use resources to work with neighborhood associations on their concerns in the safety and health domains. This was completed as part of the CHAT grant. HEN is a valuable partner in LEX-CHIP as their focus is to work with partners to raise awareness in the community about socio-economic, racial, and health inequities in the community.

## Challenges/Lessons Learned

While the team had a large amount of data and information to create the CHA and CHIP documents, we still feel like we need more a voice from the community. As we continually work to update the CHA and keep it a living document, we will work to reach the community at greatest risk.

## Contact Information

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